

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to insert generic language to elucidate a trade name.
No new matter is believed to be added to the application.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-18 are pending in the application. Claims 1-13 have been amended to improve their language without reducing their scope. Claims 8-13 have been amended to clearly indicate their status as product claims. Claim 14 has been amended to stand as an independent claim. Claim 15 finds support at page 3, lines 18-22 of the specification. Claim 16 finds support at page 3, lines 24-27 of the specification. Claim 17 finds support at page 4, lines 5-8 of the specification. Claim 18 finds support at page 4, lines 11-13 of the specification.

Response to Restriction Requirement

The Examiner has restricted the claims of the application into the following two groups:

Group I, claims 1-13, drawn to a composition comprising a charged active substance bonded to an oppositely bonded chitosan; and

Group II, claim 14, drawn to a method of preparing the composition.

Applicants elect Group II with traverse.

The composition of Group I and the method of making the composition of Group II are so intimately interrelated that no undue burden is placed upon the Examiner. Accordingly, rejoinder of both groups and examination of all the claims on the merits are respectfully requested.

Incorporation by Reference

The Examiner notes that the definition of the term “nanosol” has been incorporated by reference. The specification has been amended to add a generic description of the term “nanosol.” This generic description is based upon column 1, lines 6-12 of U.S. Patent 5,932,245, which corresponds to DE 41 40 195 cited in the paragraph starting at page 3, line 7 of the specification.

Information Disclosure Statements

The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the information disclosure statements filed February 26, 2002 and January 7, 2003 and to make the initialed PTO-1449 forms of record in the application in the next official action.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and 1.136(a), Applicant(s) respectfully petition(s) for a two (2) month extension of time for filing a reply in connection with the present application, and the required fee of \$420.00 is attached hereto.

Reply to Restriction Requirement dated November 4, 2003

Appl. No. 10/069,400

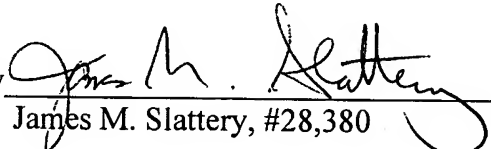
Reply to Restriction Requirement of August 4, 2003

Attorney Docket No.: 3868-0109P

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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3868-0109P

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